sary to promote the well-being of the masses and enhance the rights and privileges of the House.

The following members who had not taken their seats in the Assembly at its previous session were then duly sworn in :—

1. Mr. Venkataravanappa, Goribidnur Taluk.
2. ,, Lakshmipathi Reddi, Bagepalli Taluk.
3. ,, T. S. Sadasiva Murthy, T.-Narsipur Taluk.
4. ,, M. S. Dyave Gowda, Koppa Taluk.
5. ,, Malkappa, Jagalur Taluk.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

MESSRS. K. A. RAHIM and DYAVAPPAGOWDA (Belur Taluk).—

Q.—2. Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) Whether they are aware of the fact that Halebede Dodkere (tank) in Belur Taluk did not supply water to the lands on account of failure of rains in those parts ?

(*b*) If so, from what year ?

(*c*) What is the report of the Jamabandy Officers during these years ?

(*d*) What is the report of the village officials ?

(*e*) Whether the raiyats represented to the Revenue Commissioner in the matter of refunding the wet assessment and what was the decision made ?

(*f*) Will the Government charge dry assessment if the raiyats have raised dry crops ?

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENTS.—

A.—2. (*a*) From the rainfall records maintained in the Taluk Office, it is seen that the rainfall gauged at Halebede for the past 10 years is as follows:—

1920	..	..	..	21·94
1921	..	..	..	23·25
1922	..	..	..	22·94
1923	..	..	..	20·20
1924	..	..	..	37·26
1925	..	..	..	27·45
1926	..	..	..	29·23
1927	..	..	..	23·23
1928	..	..	..	22·73
1929	..	..	..	28·49

From the above it may be concluded that the rainfall in

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this village during these years, though not very abundant, was moderate throughout. There is nothing on record to show that the tank in question did not supply water to the lands on account of failure of rains except the petition of villagers to the Amildar on 27th August 1928.

(*b*) The residents of Halebede petitioned the Amildar on 27th August 1928 that the Halebede tank did not supply water to the lands since 1926-27 but they have not made any representation in writing either during 1926-27 or 1927-28

(*c*) No Jamabandi Officer has made any report in any of the previous years. But the Sub-division Officer, Saklespur, on the report of the Amildar ordered on 18th January 1929 the rejection of the petition as there were no good grounds for remission, and as the records showed that the villagers had raised their usual crops in the atchkat area and as the tank received a fair supply of water in the latter portion of the year. An endorsement was issued to the petitioners accordingly.

(*d*) Village officials have not made any special report in this respect. But Account No. 3 (Pahni) of the village shows that there was on an average 8 annas crop in the atchkat area of the tank and that in some cases two dry crops were raised in one year.

(*e*) The residents of Halebede petitioned the Revenue Commissioner on 11th November 1929 and 10th March 1930 praying for grant of remission of wet assessment for that year and the refund of the wet assessment paid during the previous year. The Revenue Commissioner ordered in his petition No. 1596/29, dated 22nd July 1930, that as it was reported that fairly good dry crops had been raised on the lands and in some cases two dry crops, the area could not be considered as an affected one and it was not therefore possible to grant their request.

(*f*) The raiyats are not so impoverished by successive failure of crops as to render the concession necessary. (*Vide* Government Order No. R. 2546-55—L.R. 149-24-77, dated 18th November 1925.)

Supplementary Questions and Answers.

Mr. K. A. Rahim.—

Are the Government aware that the D.P.W. has not been letting water to the lands for the last six or seven years?

First Member of Council.—

No.

Mr. K. A. Rahim.—

When water is not being let and dry crops alone are possible, is it fair to levy wet assessment on such lands ?

First Member of Council.—

It is for the raiyats to ask for remissions under the rules.

Mr. K. A. Rahim.—

Will the Government be pleased to appoint a committee to consider whether remissions are not called for in this case ?

First Member of Council.—

Government consider that a committee is unnecessary for such a purpose.

Mr. K. A. Rahim.—

Will the Government be pleased at least to adopt the Bombay rules here ?

First Member of Council.—

Our rules are more favourable than those of Bombay.

Mr. K. A. Rahim.—

Will the Government be pleased to enquire whether proper accounts are maintained by the Department of Public Works regarding the supplies of water received by the tank in question, the quantities let out for purposes of irrigation, etc.?

First Member of Council.—

If it is contended that they are not being maintained, Government will certainly institute enquiries.

Mr. B. S. Puttaswamy.—

The answer to (*f*) is that "the raiyats are not so impoverished by successive failure of crops as to render the concession necessary." What does "so impoverished" mean ? Is there any scale by which to measure the extent of impoverishment ?

Dewan.—

There are rules governing the grant of remissions and the term " impoverished " has also been defined.

Mr. B. S. Puttaswamy.—

What are the principles governing the levy of water rate ?

Dewan.—

That is a matter which cannot be discussed in the course of an interpellation.

Mr. D. S. Mallappa.—

Are the tank registers maintained properly ?

First Member of Council.—

They are expected to be.

Mr. D. S. Mallappa.—

What action will the Government take in case these are not maintained properly ?

Dewan.—

As far as possible, we will insist on the rules being followed.

Mr. D. S. Mallappa.—

Have any instructions been issued to the village officers to the effect that the records should not be maintained accurately ?

Dewan.—

It is obious that such an observation is not in order.

REPRESENTATIONS.

No. 1.—Equalisation of Taxation among all classes.

Messrs. M. Maddiah, Robertsonpet, K.G.F. Sanitary Board and Bhaskarappa, Srinivaspur Taluk.

MR. BHASKARAPPA represented that arrangements should be made to equalise the burden of taxation among